

Message Notes

Thankful for their response to the gospel

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction

Rooted in Christ ~ A study of Colossians

Today's Message: Thankful for their response to the gospel
Colossians 1:3-6

"We thank God"

Colossians 1:3

Who is God?

Is the God of Muhammed the Father of Jesus?

What has Paul heard about the Colossians?

Answer #1: Their faith in Christ Jesus

Colossians 1:4a

Answer #2: Their love for all God's people

Colossians 1:4b

Hope as the source

Colossians 1:5a

A living hope - 1 Peter 1:3-5

The true word of the gospel

Colossians 1:5b-6

Word of the cross - 1 Corinthians 1:18

What does this look like in everyday life?

1. Hearing the true word of the gospel
2. Keeping hope as your source
3. Expressing how you trust Christ Jesus and how you love God's people

Gospel Application

Colossians 1:3-8

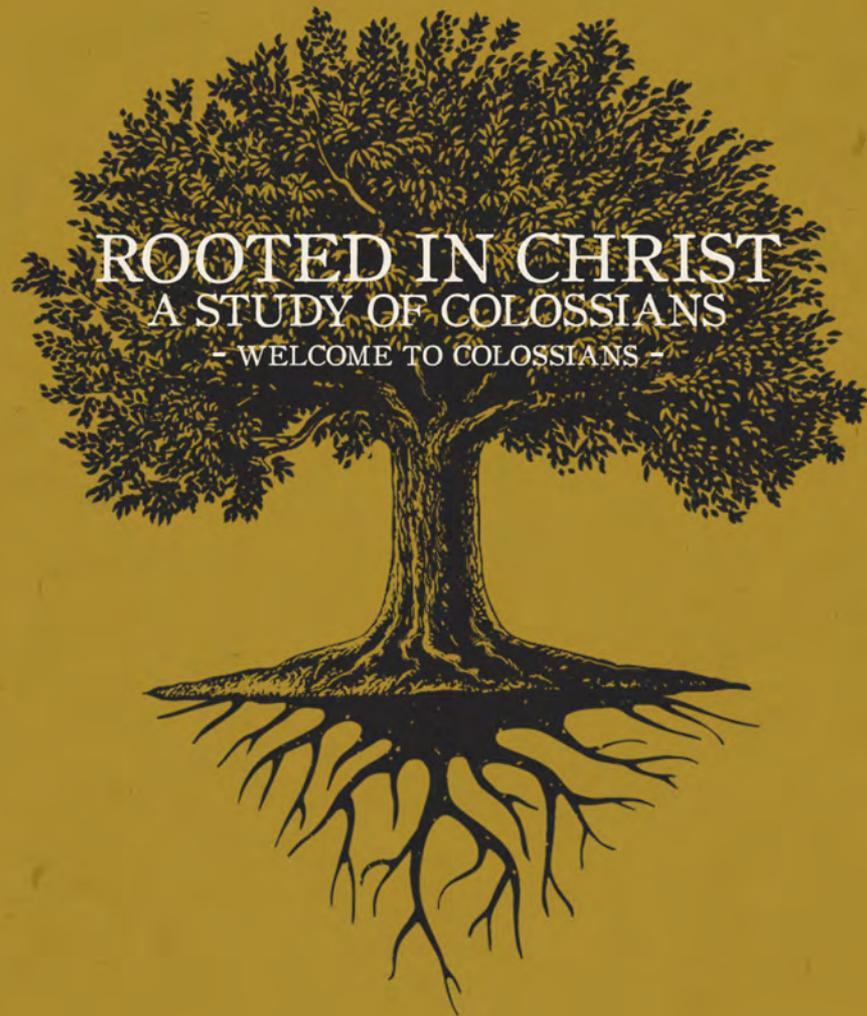
3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people—5 the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel 6 that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. 7 You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, 8 and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Corinthians 1:18

18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.



ROOTED IN CHRIST

A STUDY OF COLOSSIANS

- WELCOME TO COLOSSIANS -



FREE HEALTHCARE + BEARS





PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS

- City
- ← Paul's first missionary journey
- ← Paul's second missionary journey
- ← Paul's third missionary journey
- ← Paul's voyage to Rome

0 100 200 300 Miles
0 100 200 300 Kilometers



ASIA

GALATIA

PHRYGIA

PAMPHYLIA

LYCIA

AEGEAN SEA

Paul speaks to the Areopagus

Paul and Barnabas mistaken for gods

Proconsul Sergius Paulus converted



Troas
Mirylenē
Adramyttium
Ancyra
Pergamum
Sebaste
Ephesus
Tripolis
Seleucia
Cremna
Lystra
Miletus
Cnidus
Myra
Cyclades Islands
Sparta
Athens
Corinth
Salamis
Cyprus
Paphos
Derbe
Archelai
Taurus Mountains
Phoenix
Crete
Salmone
Cauda
Lasea
Fair Havens

Welcome to Colossians

Colossians 1:1-2

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
and Timothy our brother,

²To God's holy people in Colossae,
the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father

Paul's central message in Colossians is the affirmation of the sufficiency of Christ in the face of false philosophy in Colossae and the threat it posed to the truth of the gospel. Paul uses each section of the letter to address this problem....

Two major themes dominate the letter to the Colossians: cosmic Christology and the truth of the gospel.

Countering the false philosophy at Colossae: *Major Themes we will journey through in Colossians*

Welcome to Colossians (1:1-14)

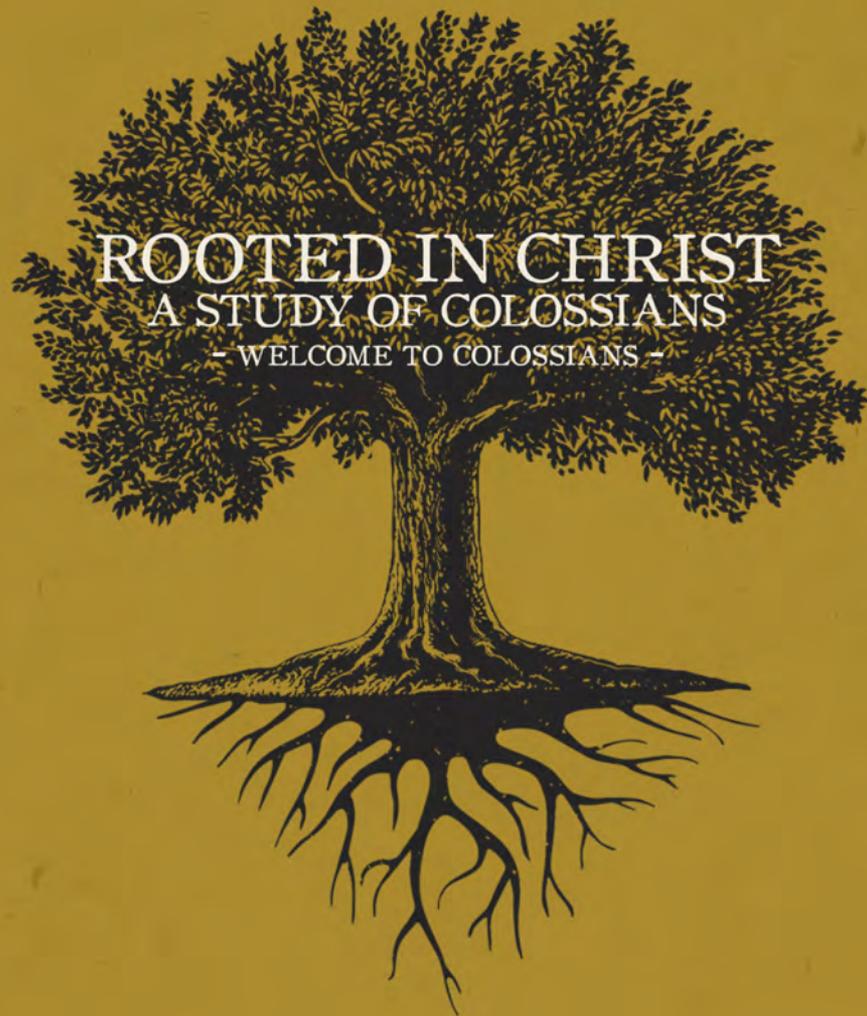
Jesus: His Supremacy (1:15-20)

Jesus: The fulfillment of story of Scripture (1:21-2:5)

How to be rooted in Jesus as an individual and church (2:6-15)

Being Circumspect about what you believe (2:16-23)

What life looks like rooted in Jesus (3:1-4:18)



ROOTED IN CHRIST

A STUDY OF COLOSSIANS

- WELCOME TO COLOSSIANS -

Colossians 1:3-8

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people – 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel 6 that has come to you.

Colossians 1:3-8

In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world — just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. 7 You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, 8 and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

So, what's happening here?

“We always thank God...”

Colossians 1:3

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God’s people – 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel 6 that has come to you.

Subject – Verb – Direct Object

Colossians 1:3

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We must always take notice that he makes use of thanksgiving in place of congratulation, by which he teaches us, that in all our joys we must readily call to remembrance the goodness of God, inasmuch as everything that is pleasant and agreeable to us is a kindness conferred by God. Besides, Paul admonishes us, by his example, to acknowledge with gratitude not merely those things which the Lord confers upon us, but also those things which he confers upon others.

Calvin, J., & Pringle, J. (2010). Commentaries on the Epistles of Paul the Apostle to the Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians (p. 137). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.



Who is God?

Colossians 1:3

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For it is not lawful for us to acknowledge any other God than him who has manifested himself to us in his Son. And this is the only key for opening the door to us, if we are desirous to have access to the true God. For on this account, also, is he a Father to us, because he has embraced us in his only begotten Son, and in Christ also sets forth his paternal favour for our contemplation.

Calvin, J., & Pringle, J. (2010). Commentaries on the Epistles of Paul the Apostle to the Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians (p. 137-138). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.



**Is the God of Muhammad
the Father of Jesus?**

Among the many distinctive truths Christians proclaim, and one that sets us apart from Islam, is this: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, is a God who has forever known himself as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. This is something that all orthodox Christians believe—Greek Orthodox Christians, Roman Catholic Christians, evangelical Protestant Christians, and many others. It is at the heart of the distinctive message we proclaim and what sets us apart most dramatically from Islam.

Timothy George, Dean of Beeson Divinity School at Samford University, executive editor for Christianity Today, article Christianity Today (2/4/2002)



What has Paul heard about the Colossians?

#1 – Their faith in Christ Jesus

Colossians 1:4a

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people – 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel 6 that has come to you.

What has Paul heard about the Colossians?

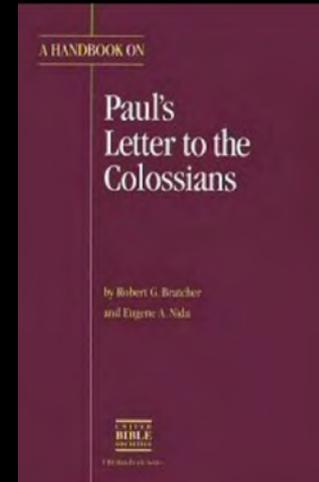
#2 – Their love for all God's people

Colossians 1:4b

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Since faith in this context is a matter of active trust and confidence, it may be appropriate to translate your faith in Christ Jesus as “how you trust Christ Jesus” or “how you have put your confidence in Christ Jesus.” Similarly, of your love for all God’s people may be rendered as “how you love all God’s people.”

Bratcher, R. G., & Nida, E. A. (1993). A handbook on Paul's letters to the Colossians and to Philemon (p. 9). New York: United Bible Societies.



Hope as the source

Colossians 1:5a

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Hope as the source

1 Peter 1:3-5

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The true word of the gospel

Colossians 1:5b-6

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people – 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message (i.e. word) of the gospel 6 that has come to you.



The true word of the gospel

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

What does this look like in everyday life?



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1. Hearing the true word of the gospel

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What does this look like in everyday life?

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Gospel Application

Gospel Application

What are you hearing from God today and how might you respond to his voice this week amidst your everyday life?